(b) and (c) State-wise scheme are not chalked-out in the handicraft sector. However for overall promotion and development of handicrafts in the country, the Government of India is implementing various schemes, which are also implemented in the State of Himachal Pradesh. The schemes include: AHVY, training & extension, design & technical upgradation, marketing support & services, research & development, financial assistance to State Handicrafts Development Corporation/apex societies and export promotion etc. Recently launched "Baba Saheb Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana" (AHVY) seeks to develop selected artisans clusters into professionally managed self-reliant community enterprises working on the principle of effective member participation and mutual cooperation and aims to achieve sustainable development of the sector.

Insurance scheme for weavers in Himachal Pradesh

2975. SHRI ANIL SHARMA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the details of special contributory insurance scheme for weavers in Himachal Pradesh;

(b) the number of weaving centres in the State; and

(c) the facilities and help given to those who want to adopt this method of earning?

THE MINISTE OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL): (a) The Hon'ble Prime Minister, in his Independene Day address to the Nation on the 15th August, 2002, had announced the introduction of a special contributory insurance scheme for one million weavers and artisans combining the Janshree Bima Yojana administered by the Life Insurance Corporation of India with Group Insurance Scheme. Accordingly in the Weavers' Welfare Scheme, a component called 'Bunkar Bima Yojana' combining the Janshree Bima Yojana of the Life Insurance Corporation of India and the Group Insurance Scheme has been included and the draft scheme has been sent to the Planning Commission as per requirement. Since this Scheme is at draft stage, it has not been implemented in any State including the State of Himachal Pradesh.

However, the Scheme, when finalised, is for implementation during the X Plan.

(b) As per the Handloom Census 1995-96, there are 40,314 handloom units in the State of Himachal Pradesh.

(c) The Government of India has been implementing various Developmental Schemes namely Deen Dayal Hathkargha Protsahan Yojana (DDHPY), Development of Exportable Products & their Marketing Scheme (DEPM), Mill Gate Price Scheme for supply of yarn, Workshed-cum-Housing Scheme for providing infrastructural support for handloom weavers in the country including Himachal Pradesh. Financial assistance is also provided for holding district level events in the State. The Weavers' Service Centre at Delhi takes care of the training requirements of the weavers of Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Jammu & Kashmir and Delhi.

Sick textile mills

2976. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) the number of sick textile mills in the country; State-wise;

(b) the steps taken to modernise the existing textile mills; and

(c) the measures taken by Government to make the existing mills economically viable?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI BASANAGOUDA R. PATIL) (a) As per information furnished by the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction, the state-wise number of sick textiles mills registered with them, as on 30-9-2002, is as follows:—

Sl. No.	State/Union Territory	Number of Textile Mills
1	2	3
1.	Andhra Pradesh	44
2.	Bihar	3
3.	Chandigarh	1
4.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	7
5.	Goa	1
6.	Gujarat	99